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ORRIN'S NEW DISCOVERY
Will Surely Stop That Cough.

HOW UNCLE SAM USES THE TELEPHONE

BY WALDON FAWCETT



UNCLE SAM has been quick to adapt to his own uses all the notable inventions and innovations of the age. The telephone, wireless telegraphy, the automobile, the flying machine and all the other notable scientific and mechanical advances of the generation have been pressed into service by the federal government as quickly or almost as quickly as spheres of usefulness have been opened to them in the commercial field. Of all the nineteenth and twentieth century revolutionary creations, however, no one has come to have such dependency placed upon it by the national government as has the telephone. Certain it is that there would be occasion for universal surprise were it possible to compile statistics that would show what proportion of the government business is now transacted by telephone.

Every federal official, from the president to the most subordinate of the nation's public servants, has a telephone on his desk, and considerations of time saving and monetary economy, to say nothing of the convenience, impel the almost universal employment of the "instantaneous" communicative system. It has, to a great extent, displaced the mails and telegraph. Washington, our national capital, is famous as the "best telephoned city in the world," and it is likewise known far and wide as the "City of Magnificent Distances"—two circumstances which combine to influence heavy dependency upon the telephone by the 30,000 federal employees at Uncle Sam's headquarters. More than this, however, the executive branch of the government is coming to rely more and more upon the telephone for the transaction of official business between the seat of government and federal offices in other cities. Aside from this extension of long-distance telephone operations, Uncle Sam, thoroughly abreast the times, is now conducting practical experiments with wireless telephony.

Perhaps the most convincing evidence that could be offered of the degree of dependency which Uncle Sam now places on the telephone is to be found in the attention paid to the installation of telephone facilities in the new \$50,000 office building recently completed for the use of President Taft and his business staff. Ever since the Spanish-American war the telephone room at the executive offices has been considered one of the most important features of this model business establishment, but the equipment of the reconstructed White House annex is infinitely superior to the telephone facilities in the old structure, and is, indeed, probably the finest and most complete to be found in America—that is, the most notable that has been provided in any private residence or corporate business office, or elsewhere than in the up-to-date telephone exchanges in our largest cities.

The new telephone room at the White House adjoins, on one hand, the general staff rooms—the working quarters of the president's clerks and stenographers—and, on the other hand, the office of the secretary to the president. Just

beyond this is the president's private office, so that the chief executive of his "right-hand man" can reach the telephonic nerve center with very little trouble. The private branch exchange in the matter of switchboard and all the details of equipment, represents the latest approved practice and the wiring of the office is thoroughly up-to-date. By no means the least important feature of the telephone room is a specially designed telephone booth, claimed to be the finest booth and the only one of its kind in the world. This is for the use of the president, when using the long distance telephone, and the structure is sound proof in the highest degree.

In general appearance the president's new telephone booth conforms very closely to the usual type of booth found in hotels, railroad stations and business houses all over the country. To be sure, the oak wood of which it is constructed has been specially selected for its beautiful grain and the plate glass in the door and windows is unusually heavy, but in general appearance the booth conforms closely to prevailing standards. The distinctive characteristics is the roominess of the interior. Not only will the booth accommodate satisfactorily so big a man as President Taft, but there is ample space for a stenographer to stand beside the president's chair inside the booth in case the executive should desire to have a memorandum taken down in shorthand as he received it over the telephone. There are also facilities whereby, if desired, this booth can in warm weather, be connected with the novel air cooling system which has been installed in the new White House offices for the purpose of making them habitable to a weighty president during the dog days.

Through the medium of this telephone clearing house—with an operator on duty night and day—the president has the entire official world at his ear. First of all, it serves as the "central" of the White House private telephone system. This system has 18 "inside stations" as they are known in technical jargon—that is, it controls a dozen and a half different telephones distributed about the presidential mansion, the White House offices and the grounds, and thereby linking the business offices, the living quarters, the kitchens, laundry, stable and garage, etc., etc., not forgetting the headquarters of the police force of 32 men that guard the White House, and the members of which may be needed at some point quickly, to control a crowd or remove a crank. Via the president's private exchange his phone or any of the other 18 may be quickly connected to any of the thousands of phones—official and non-official—embraced in the public telephone system of the city of Washington.

However, the higher circles of officialdom are by no means dependent upon the public service for their telephone facilities. They have a very ingenious system of their own. It is a secret network of wires, and, very naturally, it is centered in the White House. Primarily, this confidential telephone web consists of a special private telephone wire leading from the White House to each of the nine departments of the government. The main purpose of this is to enable the chief magistrate to at any moment consult with any of his nine cabinet officers without any danger of eavesdropping, but of course, should the president desire to communicate confidentially by phone with any subordinate in any of the departments, it is a simple matter to summon such individual to the secret phone, rather than to have him communicate with the White House via the regular telephonic channels.

Equally important as arteries of quick communication, are the two special telephone wires leading from the White House to the United States capitol. One of these lines leads into the great exchange at the big white-domed building, and through this "central" the president can get connection with the private office of any senator or representative, or with the clerk rooms or other rendezvous of the lawmakers. The other line from the White House to the capitol is a strictly secret line. Not only does it not lead into the exchange at the capitol, but the terminal is not accessible to any person save with the president's sanction. It is safe to say that there are men who have been in congress for years, who do not know of the existence of this secret line to the White House, much less know the location of its terminal. However, the line serves a most important purpose, for it enables the president to at any time, confer with the vice-president or with any senator or representative—for instance, the administration spokesman or floor leader—in absolute security as to the confidential character of the verbal exchanges. Not even a "hello girl" can overhear what is said. In number of connected telephones, and in point of the average number of calls handled

daily, the greatest private telephone exchanges in the world are those at the United States capitol, and in the most extensive government departments at Washington, as, for instance, the war and navy departments, and the department of agriculture. Such an exchange covers hundreds of phones, and there is a "night service" which enables communication with all the more important officials at their homes. The equipment of the more notable of these governmental exchanges is perfection itself. The switchboards, for instance, are of the illuminated type. That is, instead of the receipt of each call being marked by the fall of a small metal tab—something that may easily be overlooked by a "hello girl"—the summons for "central" to make a connection is given by the illumination of a small electric lamp—something that cannot readily escape notice. The switchboard of this type provides, of course, one

A NEW TOWN EVERY WEEK

AND A NEW SCHOOL EVERY SCHOOL DAY.

The above caption about represents the growth of Central Canada. The statement was made not long since by a railroad man who claimed to have made the remarkable discovery that such was the case. There is not a district of a fair amount of settlement in any of the three Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, but has its school, and the railways have stations every seven or eight miles apart, around which group the towns, some large and some small, but each important to its own district. Schools are largely maintained by public funds and the expense of tuition is but a nominal sum.

The final returns of the grain production for Central Canada for 1909 is now in, and the figures show that the value of the crops to the farmers of that country is about 195 million dollars, as compared with 120 million last year. American farmers or those who have gone from the United States, will participate largely in these splendid returns, and these comprise those who have gone from nearly every State in the Union.

One of the many proofs that might be put forward showing the immense wealth that comes to the farmers of Central Canada is seen in the sum that has been spent during the past two or three months by the farmers who have for the time being ceased worrying over the reaper and the thrasher, and are taking to enjoying themselves for two or three months. It is said that fifty thousand people of these Western Provinces spent the holiday season visiting their old homes. Most of these passengers paid forty and some forty-five dollars for the round trip. Some went to Great Britain, some to the Continent, others to their old homes in Eastern Canada, and many thousands went to visit their friends in the States. The amount paid alone in transportation would be upward of two million dollars. Some make the trip every year. It need not be asked, "Can they afford it?" With crops yielding them a profit of \$20 to \$25 per acre, and some having as much as twelve hundred or more acres, the question is answered. The Canadian Government Agents at different points in the States report that they have interviewed a great many of those who are now visiting friends in the United States, and they all express themselves as well satisfied, and promise to take some of their friends back with them. There is still a lot of free homestead land in splendid districts, and other lands can be purchased at a reasonable price from railway and land companies.

TOO LATE.



EPIDEMIC OF ITCH IN WELSH VILLAGE

"In Dowlais, South Wales, about fifteen years ago, families were stricken wholesale by a disease known as the Itch. Believe me, it is the most terrible disease of its kind that I know of, as it itches all through your body and makes your life an inferno. Sleep is out of the question and you feel as if a million mosquitoes were attacking you at the same time. I knew a dozen families that were so affected.

"The doctors did their best, but their remedies were of no avail whatever. Then the families tried a drug called Cuticura, which was noted far and wide for its remarkable cures. People came to him from all parts of the country for treatment, but his medicine made matters still worse, as a last resort they were advised by a friend to use the Cuticura Remedies. I am glad to tell you that after a few days' treatment with Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Resolvent, the effect was wonderful and the result was a perfect cure in all cases.

"I may add that my three brothers, three sisters, myself and all our families have been users of the Cuticura Remedies for fifteen years. Thomas Hugh, 1650 West Huron St., Chicago, Ill., June 29, 1909."

Whiskers.

A Roman poet told of the pride one of the late Caesars took in his great whiskers. On some of the wildwood Hill Billies I have seen beards some feet long, a switch of the loose ends hanging out from under the waistcoat. Others braided the growth and tied it around the neck, while still others braided it around the waist, tying it behind like apron strings. One told me he combed and plaited his every night, and put it away into a long linen bag or nightgown, so as to keep it from getting all tangled up with his wife and his feet.—New York Press.

Occasionally the human race is run over the course of true love.

VIEW OF SELF-SACRIFICE

A question which frequently arises in social relations is to what extent should one sacrifice one's self to oblige one's friends. More than half the social pleasures entail a sacrifice on somebody's part. Money has to be spared that can ill be afforded, people whom one doesn't like have to be met and health has to be disregarded in order to keep an engagement.

The life of the average woman seems to demand of each successive day just a little more of her time and consequently of her vitality, and when she adds to her own burdens those of other people, by filling in a place at the last moment, or by doing any one of the multitudinous other little things that oblige socially, she is on the road to destruction and had better learn to say "No" before she has to go to a sanatorium. Every social leader has on her list some of these tried and true mortals whom she can coax into working overtime. For this reason her dinners are never clouded by a vacant place; her entertainments are always a success. But the woman upon whom she leans pays for it all, even though she has her good time.